

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for generating a risk index for an individual using said individual's pharmacy claims by a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

(1) retrieving by the computer system said pharmacy claims from a pharmacy claims database, and processing by the computer system ~~examining~~ said pharmacy claims to identify any chronic conditions possessed by said individual;

(2) processing by the computer system ~~examining~~ said pharmacy claims to identify any compliance medications prescribed to said individual;

(3) generating a chronic condition score by summing regression coefficients for each chronic condition possessed by said individual;

(4) generating a compliance medication score by summing products of regression coefficients for each compliance medication prescribed to said individual with associated medication supply weights, or compliance;

(5) generating a modified chronic condition score by multiplying said chronic condition score by an overall chronic condition regression coefficient;

(6) further modifying said modified chronic condition score by subtracting a no-claims weight from said chronic condition score, if said individual has no pharmacy claims; and

(7) generating, by the computer system, said risk index by summing said modified chronic condition score and said compliance medication score.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said associated medication supply weights are determined by summing a total supply of an associated compliance medication prescribed to said individual.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said compliance medication score represents said individual's compliance for an associated compliance medication.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said no-claims weight indicates that said individual has not been diagnosed with a chronic condition.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said no-claims weight indicates that said individual has not been prescribed any medications whatsoever.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said no-claims weight is not applied if said individual has been prescribed a medication.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said overall chronic condition regression coefficient accounts for variances in said risk index.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said pharmacy claims are obtained from ~~a~~ the pharmacy claims database managed by at least one of a managed care organization, a pharmacy benefits manager, or a human resources department.

Claims 9-22 (Cancelled).

23. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of retrieving, by the computer system, patient information comprising patient eligibility data from at least one of a health insurer database and a pharmacy benefits database, and wherein said generating, by the computer system, said risk index further comprises generating the risk index responsive to the patient eligibility data.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining, by the computer system, using the risk index clinical case identification with respect to the patient.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining, by the computer system, using the risk index, and determining variation in at least one of estimated total healthcare costs and utilization by the patient.

26. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining, by the computer system, using the risk index, whether to generate comparable groups which may have differing

rates of chronic illness and adjusting for factors including at least one of adverse and favorable selection into at least one health plans, programs and health-related interventions.

27. (New) A computer system for generating a risk index for an individual using said individual's pharmacy claims, said computer system comprising processor and a memory medium storing instructions for controlling said processor, wherein said processor executes the instructions stored on said memory medium and performs the following functionality:

(1) retrieving by the computer system said pharmacy claims from a pharmacy claims database, and processing by the computer system said pharmacy claims to identify any chronic conditions possessed by said individual;

(2) processing by the computer system said pharmacy claims to identify any compliance medications prescribed to said individual;

(3) generating a chronic condition score by summing regression coefficients for each chronic condition possessed by said individual;

(4) generating a compliance medication score by summing products of regression coefficients for each compliance medication prescribed to said individual with associated medication supply weights, or compliance;

(5) generating a modified chronic condition score by multiplying said chronic condition score by an overall chronic condition regression coefficient;

(6) further modifying said modified chronic condition score by subtracting a no-claims weight from said chronic condition score, if said individual has no pharmacy claims; and

(7) generating, by the computer system, said risk index by summing said modified chronic condition score and said compliance medication score.

28. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said associated medication supply weights are determined by summing a total supply of an associated compliance medication prescribed to said individual.

29. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said compliance medication score represents said individual's compliance for an associated compliance medication.

30. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said no-claims weight indicates that said individual has not been diagnosed with a chronic condition.

31. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said no-claims weight indicates that said individual has not been prescribed any medications whatsoever.

32. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said no-claims weight is not applied if said individual has been prescribed a medication.

33. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said overall chronic condition regression coefficient accounts for variances in said risk index.

34. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said pharmacy claims are obtained from the pharmacy claims database managed by at least one of a managed care organization, a pharmacy benefits manager, or a human resources department.

35. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said computer system retrieves said patient information comprising patient eligibility data from at least one of a health insurer database and a pharmacy benefits database, and wherein said generating, by the computer system, said risk index further comprises generating the risk index responsive to the patient eligibility data.

36. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said computer system determines using the risk index clinical case identification with respect to the patient.

37. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said computer system determines using the risk index, and determining variation in at least one of estimated total healthcare costs and utilization by the patient.

38. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein said computer system determines using the risk index whether to generate comparable groups which may have differing rates of chronic illness and adjusts for factors including at least one of adverse and favorable selection into at

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least one health plans, programs and health-related interventions.